

13 a forwarding mechanism for forwarding the test frame structure from the first
14 remote DLSw device and through the switch to force the switch to immediately update
15 the forwarding table with (i) a port identifier (ID) of a port receiving the test frame
16 structure at the switch and (ii) the source address of the test frame structure.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein a destination address of the test frame is a
2 group/multicast address, and wherein the source and destination addresses are medium
3 access control (MAC) addresses.

1 19. The method of Claim 2 wherein the test frame is a Logical Link Control Type 1
2 (LLC1) TEST frame.

1 20. The apparatus of claim 17 wherein the switch is an Ethernet switch.--